

THE CLAIMS

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A voice recognition apparatus comprising:

a storage having a stored vocabulary of words to be recognized for voice control of a plurality of programs and other files; and

a file directory configured to store a link to each program and file of the plurality of programs and other files, each link comprising a shortcut pointer to a corresponding one of the plurality of programs and other files, each link having a name separate from the name of that link's corresponding program or other file such that the name of each link can be modified independent of the name of that link's corresponding program or other file, wherein a first active partial vocabulary of the voice recognition apparatus is automatically generated upon initiation of a voice recognition application based on the names of the links in the file directory at that time, such that changes to the file directory are automatically reflected in the first active partial vocabulary.

11. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the names of the links are formed by voice commands, and the links define shortcuts to application programs.

12. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the names of the links are formed by voice commands, and wherein the links define shortcuts to files selected from a group consisting of text documents, voice documents, music files, and video files.

13. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein the file directory contains a plurality of sub-directories in at least one subordinate hierarchy level, wherein names of the plurality of sub-directories together with the names of the links form a first active partial vocabulary of the voice recognition apparatus lower down the hierarchy.

14. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein each program and file of the plurality of programs and other files is assigned from at least one of the plurality of sub-directories a voice command comprising multiple connected parts that contain the names of the links from the

file directory and the at least one of the plurality of sub-directories leading to the program or file.

15. (Previously Presented) A voice recognition method comprising:
providing a voice recognition apparatus including a storage having a stored vocabulary of words to be recognized for voice control of a plurality of programs and other files, and a file directory configured to store a link to each program and file of the plurality of programs and other files, each link comprising a shortcut pointer to a corresponding one of the plurality of programs and other files, each link having a name separate from the name of that link's corresponding program or other file such that the name of each link can be modified independent of the name of that link's corresponding program or other file, wherein the names of the links form a first active partial vocabulary of the voice recognition apparatus; and

the voice recognition apparatus automatically generating a current vocabulary containing at least the names of the links from the file directory when a voice recognizer program configured to perform voice recognition is started, such that changes to the file directory are automatically reflected in the first active partial vocabulary.

16. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition method as defined in claim 15, further comprising:

effecting administration of the vocabulary by managing the file directory and at least one sub-directory without an additional vocabulary management program.

17. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition method as defined in claim 16, further comprising:

creating sub-directories below the file directory in at least one subordinate hierarchy level in order to edit voice commands having multiple connected parts; and

recognizing the voice commands having multiple connected parts in a multi-stage recognition process, wherein in the course of recognizing a switch is made from a first active partial vocabulary into an at least second active partial vocabulary.

18. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

recording new words in the vocabulary by effecting a program call via a context menu for a relevant program or file of the plurality of programs and other files.

19. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

removing words from the vocabulary by effecting a program call via a context menu for a relevant program or file of the plurality of programs and other files.

20. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

recording new words in the vocabulary by effecting a "drag'n'drop" procedure.

21. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, further comprising:

removing words from the vocabulary by effecting a "drag'n'drop" procedure.

22. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition apparatus as defined in claim 10, wherein each link comprises a WINDOWS shortcut.

23. (Previously Presented) The voice recognition method as defined in claim 17, wherein each link comprises a WINDOWS shortcut